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Father Irénée Beaubien has joined the growing number of Roman Catholics who recognize that the YMCA can contribute increasingly to the elimination of prejudices of various kinds.

Father Beaubien is Director of the Montreal Ecumenical Centre and a member of the board of the National Secretariat on Ecumenism.

He considers the YMCA as one of the leading world associations dedicated to serving the spiritual, intellectual and physical needs of people, especially youth.

"The time has come for the Y and similarly-motivated Roman Catholic associations to enter into dialogue, and see what can be done, cooperatively, to better serve the needs of the community", says Father Beaubien.

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"The attitude of the Vatican Council makes it evident that Catholics should try to cooperate, as much as possible, with due regard to local circumstances, with any association that tries to foster mutual understanding so that the common needs of human beings will be better served", he emphasizes.

"In Canada, understanding should be developed not only between people of various beliefs but also between citizens of French, English and other cultures. Here the YMCA has a definite role to play.

"We know that at the present time the Montreal YMCA has undertaken a study to assess its policy in the light of the changing needs of our time. This effort deserves our sympathy and our cooperation" concludes Father Beaubien.

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